

The assorted Bell companies maintain and operate their networks as an "essential facility" for the American Consumer. They should be required to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. By providing wholesale access, the Bell companies are stimulating competition, and this will ultimately benefit the consumers. To not do so would undermine the '1996 Telecommunications Act. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.